

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Crouch for her helpful comments in the recent telephone interviews, during which proposals were discussed to allow the application. For the sole purpose of expediting prosecution and not to act to the Examiners' positions, Applicants have amended the claims in the manner suggested in the interview to place the application in condition for allowance.

Specifically, during the interview, the Examiner and her supervisor suggested replacing the recitations "non-human animals" and "animal" with the term "non-human mammals" throughout the claims to be consistent with the examples in the disclosure. Though it is believed that this revision is not needed to comply with the written description and/or enablement requirements, Applicants have amended the claims in the manner suggested by the Examiners to expedite allowance.

The Examiners also suggested deleting the relative terms "small", "large" and "larger" throughout the claims. Though it is believed that this language would be clear to one reading the specification and based on the ordinary usage in the claims, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiners to expedite allowance. In particular, Applicants have replaced the language "small group" with "subset" and deleted the terms "large" and "larger" throughout the claims. It is implicit

that "a subset" of a group is a smaller portion of that group in general.

It is believed that these amendments should not alter the scope of protection and that they are unrelated to patentability.

Support for the amendments can be found throughout the general disclosure and the claims. No new matter has been added.

The application should be in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is solicited.

If the Examiners have any proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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